

O'Connor responded with her own hand-written notation on the same page: "Call Heather Sibbison at Interior. Ask her if there is a date by which Interior will announce a decision on the Wisconsin dog track." Jennifer O'Connor ultimately gave that task to White House intern David Meyers,³²⁹ who spoke with Sibbison on June 6, 1995. As recorded in Meyers's same-day memorandum to Jennifer O'Connor, Sibbison informed Meyers that Interior would make the decision within "the next two weeks." Meyers wrote that Sibbison informed him Interior was "95% certain" that the application would be denied. Meyers reported that Sibbison said that there was significant local opposition to the casino proposal, but that much of that opposition was the by-product of wealthier tribes who opposed the application. His memo indicates that Sibbison said DOI would decline the application without offering "much explanation" based on its "'discretion'" in the matter. The memo concludes by noting that Sibbison told Meyers that Jennifer O'Connor should call Sibbison with her "thoughts" if she had "feedback" on the Hudson matter.

Sibbison disputes certain aspects of Meyers's version of their conversation. She denies having solicited White House views on the Hudson matter, but says she may have indicated that O'Connor should call her if she had any additional questions. While Sibbison states she probably did tell Meyers it was likely to be denied and the decision would be announced soon, she specifically denies having given him any answer in percentage terms. Sibbison also thinks

³²⁹In June 1995, Meyers was an unpaid intern in Ickes's office. He worked frequently with Jennifer O'Connor on issues within Ickes's office. Prior to that time, Meyers had held several positions within the White House, including a previous unpaid internship with Ickes from January 1994 to August 1994, and a paid position with the National Economic Council beginning in August 1994. He left his position with the NEC after about two and a half months in order to focus on law school, but returned to the White House in May of 1995 to intern again with Ickes's office.